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FEATURES

Bringing Up Baby by the Book 18
From conception to coping with homework, parents who want to succeed at the task are flooded with information as never before
By Elinor Siegel

DEPARTMENTS

NEWS OF THE WEEK 6
ABA 1991:– Big, Bustling, Upbeat
ABA Members Nix Bylaw Change After Stormy Two-Hour Debate
McDowell, Cohen to Leave Book Industry Beat at *New York Times*
B & T Wins $700,000 Ghana Contract
Rep. Frank Seeks Privacy Protection in Fair-Use Legislation
Krinsley to Retire as Head of Scholastic, Marcus to Succeed Him
Marmion Moves to Random As Director of Marketing
Groupe Overtakes Hachette as France's Largest Book Publisher
High Court Allows Minors Access Law in Georgia to Stand
NCR Award Goes to Claire Tomalin
AAP Sales Report for April
U.K.'s Transworld Reports 36% Drop in Operating Profit
Australian Media Company and U.S. Packager Launch New Venture
Two U.K. Reports Take Opposite Positions on Net Book Agreement
Marvel Comics Goes Public with 3.5 Million Share Offering

TRADE NEWS 27
The Early Days of Radio from HarperCollins/Burlingame
Turning Up What's New ... At Turner Publishing

BOOK DESIGN & MANUFACTURING..... 29
Ink from Soybeans: Lighter, Cheaper, Safer

CHILDREN'S AUDIO/VIDEO 34
Sony Music Video Creates Children's Programming Division
Audio Planned for *Big Book for Peace*
Children's Audio Reviews

BOOKSELLING..... 36
Montsho Books: Heritage in the Shadow of Disney World

PW INTERVIEWS..... 41
Bradford Morrow

FORECASTS 43
Fiction 43
Nonfiction 48
Paperbacks 52
Children's Books 56

COLUMNS

Highlights 5
Paperback Bestsellers 32
Hardcover Bestsellers 33
My Say: *Ted Morgan* 38
Rights 39
Talk of the Trade 40
Weekly Exchange 60
Child Care Bestsellers 64

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Marmion Moves to Random House As Director of Marketing

Bridget Marmion, formerly vice-president and director of marketing at Farrar, Straus & Giroux, has been named a division vice-president and director of marketing for Random House adult trade books. The marketing managers for Villard Books, Times Books, the Random House reference division and Fodor's Travel Guides will report to her. The Random House advertising and promotion services group will also report to her.

Bruce Harris, executive vice-president of Random House Inc., said: "Bridget is known for the marketing of quality books to every segment of the reading public. Her energy and devotion to quality will be a considerable asset for Random House."

Marmion began her career at Random House in 1972, working in the editorial and publicity departments. She joined Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 1974 and served as associate director of publicity and advertising, promotion manager and assistant marketing director before directing the FSG sales and marketing department.

High Court Allows Minors Access Law in Georgia to Stand

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected an appeal by the publishing community to overturn a Georgia statute barring bookstores from displaying material not obscene to adults but which may be considered harmful to minors.

The court's refusal to get involved in the case, taken as usual without explanation, left intact a law the American Booksellers Association, the Association of American Publishers and others who appealed for review said would affect access "to a vast array of constitutionally protected material" in that state.

A U.S. District Court had ruled that the Georgia law, adopted in 1984, covered too much of a bookstore's normal inventory and would cause significant damage to booksellers' businesses.

In the interim, however, the Supreme Court acted on two other cases, *Virginia* v. *ABA*, which largely supported state laws barring access by minors to books containing adult material, and *Pope* v. *Illinois*, which decreed that such laws could not exclude persons as young as 17 who "would find serious value" in the material.

In their appeal, the publishing interests argued that the Appeals Court relied on the Virginia decision but ignored the Illinois one. The briefs asking Supreme Court review also questioned an exclusion that the lower courts granted libraries from the Georgia law.

—H.F.

Groupe Overtakes Hachette as France's Largest Book Publisher

In a report unveiled in a dry season but promising better things to come, France's Groupe de la Cité offers convincing evidence to back its chairman's claim that it is now the country's number one in books, displacing Hachette.

Groupe is the joint endeavor of one of France's and the world's leading industrial combines, Alcatel Alsthom, with C.E.P. Communication, a leader in the information and trade press and trade fairs. Alcatel Alsthom and C.E.P. each own 50% of Hoche Friedland, a holding company which in turn owns 68% of Groupe de la Cité. To thicken the plot, a minority share of Groupe is in the hands of Havas, also a shareholder of Gallimard; its mix of publishing, advertising, travel and similar activities has made Havas a credible challenger to Hachette, which is still known as France's number one in media.

At a breakfast meeting for the daily and business press in Paris, Groupe de la Cité chairman Christian Brégou announced sales for 1990 amounting to 6.246 billion francs (or $1.095 billion at a current quotation).

Henceforth earnings of the Robert Laffond group, including the Quid encyclopedia, Editions Seghers, distributor Interforum, and mail sales affiliate Larousse-Laffont, are included in the total. A number of other components of Groupe de la Cité are groups unto themselves: Bordas (with Dunod, Garnier, Gauthier-Villars and more), Nathan, Larousse, Presses de la Cité (with Plon, Julliard, Christian Bourgois among the 11 imprints). There is also a 50–50 partnership with Bertelsmann in France-Loisirs, still the world's leading book club.

A significant move during the business year was creation of Groupe de la Cité International, which under Jean-François Grollemund brings together widespread foreign investments, notably Millbrook Press for the U.S. library market.

—HERBERT R. LOTTMAN

NCR Award Goes to Claire Tomalin

The NCR Book Award, Britain's most valuable and the only top prize given to a nonfiction title, went to Claire Tomalin for *The Invisible Woman* (Viking, published by Knopf in the United States). Tomalin received £25,000 for the story of Nelly Ternan, child actress and companion—and possible mistress—of Charles Dickens.

Four runners-up each received £1500, with Dickens again appearing as the subject of Peter Ackroyd's massive biography (Sinclair-Stevenson, HarperCollins in the U.S.). The other three shortlisted works were *Son of Adam* (Deutsch) by Denis Forman, *The Patriots' Revolution* (Sinclair-Stevenson) by Mark Frankland and *Paul Scott: A Life* (Hutchinson, Norton in the U.S.) by Hilary Spurling.

—VIVIENNE MENKES

AAP Sales Report for April

Category	% change, April*	% change, YTD
Adult hardcover	-2.4	5.4
Adult paperback	5.2	3.2
Juvenile hardcover	-1.7	-1.4
Juvenile paperback	-13.3	15.8
Univ. pr. hardcover	18.9	1.2
Univ. pr. paperback	38.2	13.7
Bibles, etc.	1.1	43.5
Mass market paperback	1.7	11.0
Book club	10.7	8.6
Mail order	-0.9	-0.4
Sci-tech	1.4	15.0
College texts	10.4	-11.0
School texts	-5.1	-3.9

**Percent changes measured against same time periods, 1990.*

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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

American Psychological Assoc. 35
Augsburg Fortress 49
Baker & Taylor Books Cvr.4
Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group 17
Barrons Educational Series 21
R.R. Bowker 23
Golden Press Cvr.2
Eerdmans' Printing 53
GP Putnam's Sons 9-13
Hay House 4
Impact Publishers 26
Knopf, Alfred Cvr.1,2 p.1-2
Scholastic, Inc. 24-25
Tarcher, Jeremy 58-59
Viking Press 51
The Writer 50

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